

## HOW TO JOIN TIP



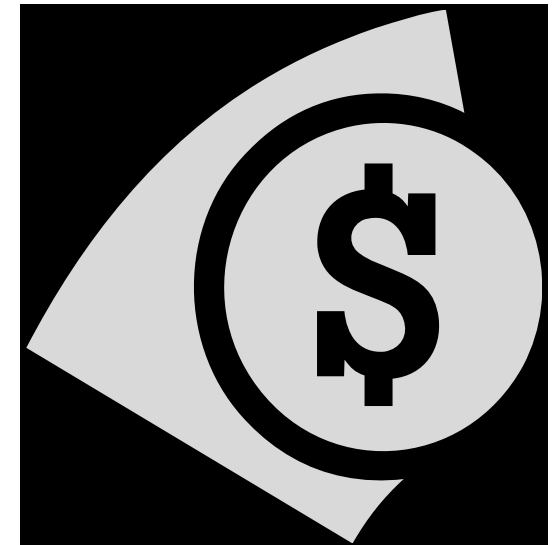
1. Contact the TIP coordinator in the Treasurer's Office to request a copy of the TIP agreement. Forms are available at the Treasurer's Office, which is on the first floor of the Mahoning County Courthouse, or by calling (330) 740-2460 ext. 7761.
2. Read and sign the agreement.
3. Return the agreement to the Treasurer's Office.
4. Check your mail for TIP coupons that will state the amount you will pay each month toward your next real estate tax bill.
5. Remember to send a coupon with every payment you make.
6. If you want to receive a receipt, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with payment.



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# Tax Installment Plan



**A PROGRAM BY  
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## WHAT'S A TAX INSTALLMENT PLAN?

Traditionally, real estate taxes are collected twice a year, in March and August. Many taxpayers have found that monthly payments are more affordable than much larger biannual tax bills.

The Tax Installment Plan, or TIP program, makes it possible for people to prepay their property taxes. Payments are spread out over as many as five months. Money is held in an escrow account until the next current tax collection is open. The money in escrow will be applied toward the payment of real estate taxes then due.

There are no additional fees for participating in TIP.

The Treasurer's Office will send paper coupons that serve as monthly reminders to make TIP payments.

## WHO QUALIFIES FOR TIP?

The program is available to all taxpayers who are current on their real estate taxes.

Delinquent taxpayers do not qualify for TIP. Those persons should contact the Treasurer's Office for other payment options.

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### How much will I have to pay?

Your payment schedule will be based on your most recent tax bill. The sum of prepayments must be equal to or exceed the full amount of taxes due for that period to avoid making additional payments. If there is an outstanding balance after the final monthly payment is made, you will receive a bill. Any unpaid balance on current taxes will be charged a late penalty and interest in accordance with Ohio Revised Code.

### I'll be out of town for a few months. May I make more than one payment in advance?

You may make double payments in any month before the current tax collection closes.

### What happens if I overpay?

Any surplus remaining in the escrow account after real estate taxes have been paid will either be applied toward future real estate taxes or be returned to the taxpayer upon request. The application for return of surplus escrowed funds will automatically terminate the existing agreement.

## WHO BENEFITS FROM TIP

**Senior citizens**, many of whom are on fixed incomes and who find it difficult to pay large tax bills twice a year.

**Many homeowners** who want to simplify their household budgeting by making payments in equal, monthly amounts.

**Local school districts**, because regular, timely real estate tax collections fund the education of our children.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

The TIP program is available as a service to Mahoning County residents. It is not required by Ohio law.

The Mahoning County Treasurer's Office does not charge a fee for participation in TIP.

Keep in mind that your real estate taxes may change from year to year based upon new levies or re-evaluations. Those changes may affect your TIP payments.

